

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK



D o w n s t a t e M e d i c a l C e n t e r
450 Clarkson Ave., Brooklyn 3, N. Y. U L s t e r 6-2020

College of Medicine
Department of Surgery

March 3, 1961

Dr. Clarence Dennis
Kryssarvagen 10
Nasby Park, Sweden

Dear Clarence:

Thanks very much for your letter. It's good news to hear that things are going well and that you are having good results with your experiments in partial perfusion. I'm sure there is always money to buy whatever is necessary to set up whatever you want here. The American Heart grant has only \$2974 left in it, but the U.S.P.H.S. grant has enough money to take care of whatever extra is needed. We won't spend any more of the money of the American Heart until the very end of the grant period (June 30, 1961) so that there will be opportunity to put in orders.

Wesolowski was elected to the Society of University Surgeons. At that same business meeting they passed a motion to discontinue member departments. This will be a constitutional amendment which will be introduced next year. It appears that there would be no need now to make application for our department.

Harvey Krieger of Western Reserve has accepted the job at the Brooklyn Jewish. Now if everything goes smoothly in all the negotiations, I presume he will be here on the job July 1st.

We still have five dogs going with the lopps which are having croton oil instilled into them three times a week. Three other dogs died of perforations of the loops after 5 cc. instillations of croton oil two or three times each. Because of this severe local reaction, the dose of croton oil was reduced and the instillation was made three times a week. This ^{has} continued and there is no evidence of colitis or liver involvement yet. So far it's something for the journal of negative results.

The appointment of Bert Bromberg is proceeding. His name was presented to the Executive Committee of the Medical Board as head of the division at the last meeting. Harry Mellins raised a little flurry wondering why Ray Shapiro was not being appointed and objecting to Bromberg on the basis that he is an unknown and may well become an absentee landlord (to quote Harry), but the appointment is still in the works and his Faculty appointment as Clinical Associate Professor is coming up now one of these days. As soon as we hear from the Commissioner that his

appointment has been approved, we will put him to work. There is real resentment on the part of the people who are working here now on Plastic Service toward Rubin and Walden, and these people are afraid that Rubin and Walden will in fact be the forces at work. I am going to have to tell Bromberg to try to hold back Rubin and Walden at least for the time being and to make his own presence felt. I think this will calm the fears of Ray Shapiro and the rest of the people here now. If Rubin and Walden get too overbearing, we stand a good chance of losing three or four of our present active people.

Eichna has made a proposition that we switch some more wards with him and move the medical wards from C-11 and C-12, C-21 and C-22 to A-31, 41, 42, and 51. This would give us the first two floors of A building and the first two floors and the fourth floor of C building, according to the plan on the enclosed sketch. We think this would be alright, and in the exchange we gain the capacity of the space presently occupied by the prison ward on A-31. We would move Plastic and ENT down to the first floor of A building, Trauma to C-11 and C-12, and male Surgery to C-21 and C-22. The laboratories ~~would~~ on the 1st and 2nd floors of C building would be evacuated by Medicine as soon as they have new laboratories constructed in the A building on their floors, which probably will occur during this next year. The Dean has put in a large request to the Health Research Council of the City to convert all the remaining porches and loggias in the A-B-C complex. This would take care of that. At the present time this move would not affect our laboratories at all because we have none on the wards that we will evacuate.

I was approached by Dr. Adamsons the other day inquiring whether we had a job for him. He would like to stay in Brooklyn and practice here, ~~but~~ but he doesn't have a New York State license and apparently cannot be eligible for one until he has established eligibility with the American Board of Surgery or perhaps actually passed this Board. He has a license to practice in Ohio, but would rather not move out there. If he could get a job to support himself working within the confines of the institution until he could get a license, this would tide him over. I talked with Harry LeVeen at the V.A. and he could give him a half-time job on a Cancer Chemotherapy project. I was wondering if we should release one of our part-time positions by removing either Abrahams or Fishbone from these and give one of these to Adamsons for the period necessary until he gets his license. In this connection, Irv Enquist proposed before this that we ask Adamsons to conduct the surgical pathology conferences Saturday morning~~s~~ because Frank Watson has quit this job. Frank is moving to New Jersey where he has accepted a position in a local hospital there. We have no one now doing surgical pathology on Saturday mornings and Adamsons, being a fairly well oriented in this field, probably could help us a good deal in our liaison with the pathologists and increase our teaching effectiveness in this field. We could also assign him to cover the out-patient clinic for us, an area where we seem to have chronic problems.

In regard to the part-time positions, it might be alright to take Fishbone and Abrahams off of this. It's rather difficult to justify maintaining people on these lines who are doing little different than some of the voluntary attending men who get no money at all. It can be justified when they are first out of residency and are really hard up, but this no longer applies to these two men. Carrying Aiello and Jones probably is justified because of the investigative pursuits which they have.

I'll be anxious to hear your reaction to all of these things. You can get an idea of how I feel we should proceed from how I have presented these items.

I'm certainly grateful to you for your activity and volume of correspondence toward the end that I might become a member of the American Surgical. I certainly understand that I may not get in, but on your advice I shall make the trip to Boca Raton and enjoy the meeting. If you have not done so, would you please ask Bill Altemeier if I might attend, or is this necessary? Phil tells me that the paper on direct coagulation will be on the program of the American Surgical. Apparently he sent it in. I haven't seen any indication of the program, but presume that what Phil says is not assumption. *It is not an assumption, I checked.*

Sounds to me like sabbatical is for accomplishment. Having time really to get to work on the problem, Janey has done very well. I certainly am pleased that this turn of events is being considered the right plunge. But what about the Mayor's son back in Pelham, New York?

Our best to you all. We will be anxious to hear more about all that has gone on when you come back in August.

Cordially,

Kae
We're all fine & Spring is coming!